

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated February 21, 2008, claims 44-91 were examined with the result that all claims were rejected. The rejections made by the Examiner were non-final. In response, applicant has amended claims 44, 52 and 56; canceled claims 51, and 61-91; and added new claims 92-107. In view of the above amendments and following remarks reconsideration of this application is requested.

In the Office Action, claims 44, 52, 56, 61 and 79 were objected to because the term "and/or" is considered indefinite. In response, applicant has amended claims 44, 52 and 56 to use the term "or" therein, and has canceled claims 61 and 79. Accordingly, applicant requests the Examiner withdraw the objection to these claims.

In the Office Action, claims 44-61, 63-64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 75-77, 82 and 88-91 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In response, applicant has amended claim 44 to include a useful, concrete and tangible result, i.e. "transmitting the retrieved information to a user's communications device." In addition, applicant has canceled claims 61-91. Accordingly, applicant requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection of the claims based on §101.

In the Office Action, all of claims 44-91 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Coulter, ACM and ACM (Version). Applicant has the following comments relating to these rejections.

Applicant has amended the main claim (claim 44) to more clearly distinguish it over the citations. Applicant believes the amended claim should overcome the objections raised. Applicant deleted claims 88-91 and added new system claims 92-105.

The documents cited by the Examiner relate to a classification system, wherein the codes are solely used for classifying content.

In contrast, in the present invention information is classified according to so-called subject terms and the codes are subsequently used for encoding the subject-terms. The codes are then stored together with information or links to information in a database in a host system. If a user transmits such a code to the host system it is recognized as a request for information. The system analyses the codes and retrieves information according to the

received code, either from a database at the host system or using the links associated with the code to retrieve the information from another source (e.g. via the internet).

In this way there is provided a method and system of requesting information efficiently and independent from a user's communications device used (such that for example a computer or a mobile terminal could be used for requesting information) and provide an improved and more flexible way of providing the information to a user.

As specified in the amended set of claims, codes have a hierarchical structure of sub-codes. In this way information is classified and available for retrieval. Thus information, such as web-site or Internet content, printed matter or information stored in particular databases (e.g. a merchant's database) is accessible using the codes.

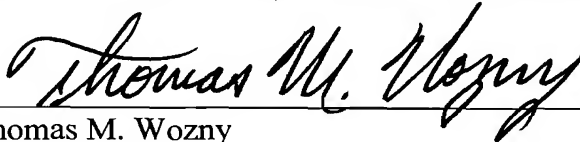
Another difference between the present invention and the citations is that the levels of the hierarchical classification system, and particularly the levels of the second and subsequent levels are not constant and can change with time or place. The codes are flexible as the information changes often (eg: the people in the news, sport matches, traffic, etc). As the information associated with each level becomes more granular, it can become more dynamic. The number of levels is also unlimited since some topics may have many more subjects than others, and this infinite expandability is clearly different to the other systems cited.

Applicant believes that none of the citations describe or suggest a system or method as set out in the amended set of claims.

An effort has been made to place this application into condition for allowance and such action has been earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Thomas M. Wozny", is written over a horizontal line.

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